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THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : The answer is in the negative. The question of taking over Vellur-Padiotchal-Pulingone road from the control of Malabar District Board is however proposed to be examined in connexion with the State Budget for 1956–57.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Sir, are the Government aware that this road, which is the only road leading to the pepper centres in the Payyanur firka, is one of the worst roads in Malabar and will the Government be pleased at least to recommend to the Highways Department the taking over of this road and making it useful for bus traffic as well as for the travellers?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : Sir, there is a scheme for taking over all the District Board roads by the Highways Department and in that scheme the question of taking up this road will be examined. It may be either this year or next year.

SRI V. K. RAMASWAMI MUDALIAR : Sir, as the finances of the district boards in the State are in a very bad condition, may I know whether there is any proposal to take over all the major district board roads by the Highways Department?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : Yes, Sir. The policy of the Government is to take over all the major district board roads. We have already taken over 8,996 miles of Group I roads in this State and the balance left over is 2,890 miles. We propose to take over them in the Second Five-Year Plan.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Is there any proposal engaging the attention of the Government to so shape the Tour Programme of Prime Minister Pandit Nehru in Malabar as to avoid all district board roads so that their shameful condition may not be known to him or seen by him? (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : Sir, that is outside the scope of the question. Anyhow I can say that some patch works will naturally be done and the Prime Minister won't be able to notice the ugliness of anything the Member alleges.

* 2757 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to take over the Kotfecherry-Panathur road in Kasargode taluk, South Kanara, from the district board to be maintained by the Highways Department ; and

(*b*) if so, when?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) Does not arise.

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SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Sir, the Kottecherry-Panathur road is of inter-State importance as it connects Coorg. It has got very heavy traffic. Will the Government, therefore, consider the desirability of taking over this road by the Highways Department?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: It is all being considered now. It may be taken over this year or the next year.

* 2758 Q.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 1104 on 5th March 1955—

(a) whether the Government of India have approved the detailed estimate for the Attappady-Chinnathadagam road; and if so

(b) when the Government propose to take up the work for execution?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI: (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The work will be taken up in the current year after invitation and settlement of tenders.

Burial grounds for Harijans

* 2759 Q.—SRI P. G. MANICKAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state with reference to question No. 1009 answered on 2nd March 1955—

(a) how many applications have been received from Coimbatore district during 1954-55 for the provision of burial grounds for Harijans; and

(b) how many of them have been sanctioned?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN: (a) & (b) No applications have been received during 1954–55 for provision of burial grounds for Harijans in Coimbatore district. The Collector has, however, initiated action to provide burial or burning grounds or pathways leading to them, in eight villages in the district where the burial or burning grounds or pathways leading to them are situated on patta lands.

SRI P. G. MANICKAM: கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, மார்ச்சு மாதம் இரண்டாந்தேதி நான் கேட்ட கேள்விக்கு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லியிருக்கிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் கொடுத்த ரிப்போர்ட்டுப்படியே 78 சேரிகளுக்கு மேலே மயான வசதியில்லாமல் இருக்கின்றன. அந்தச் சேரிவாசிகள் பிணங்களை ரோடு ஓரங்களிலும், பள்ளங்களிலும், ஆற்றின் கரைகளிலும் புதைத்துக்கொண்டு வருகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு உடனடியாக மயான வசதி செய்துகொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்றால் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கலெக்டருக்குத் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறார். கலெக்டர் கவர்மெண்டுக்கு எழுதியிருக்கிறா என்றோ போனால் காலதாமதம் ஆகிறது. அதனால் அவர்களுக்கு ஒருவித பிரயோஜனமும் இல்லை. ஆகையால் உடனடியாக அவர்களுக்கு மயான வசதி செய்து கொடுக்க கவர்மெண்டார் முன்வருமா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.